

PILATELIC LINCOLNIA
STAMPS
90¢ LINCOLN

DRAWING 21

STAMPS: LINCOLN

71.2009.085.05604

Philately

90¢ Lincoln Stamp

Excerpts from newspapers and other
sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

Los Angeles, Calif.,
March 17, 1938.

Mr. H.G.Melone, Cashier,
Lincoln National Life Ins. Co.,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Sir:-

As per your request of the 16th inst. am
enclosing new statement of Abraham Lincoln articles
I have for sale, duly signed and completed.

Yours very truly,

Louise Wheeler

8.

FOR SALE
THREE THINGS RELATING TO ABRAHAM LINCOLN

* * * * *

Lithograph of 1869, designed and written by W.H.Pratt, Davenport, Iowa,
and lithographed and printed by A. Hogeland, Davenport, Iowa.
Size 27½ x 21 inches.

The Proclamation of Emancipation is written within an oval, the shading
showing the strong face of Abraham Lincoln very clearly.
Above the oval is a large outspread eagle, the seal of the United States.
Around the oval are the seals of the thirty-six states then representing
our United States, with the

"NAMES OF MEMBERS OF CONGRESS WHO VOTED FOR THE RESOLUTION TO
SUBMIT TO THE LEGISLATURES OF THE SEVERAL STATES THE
AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED
STATES PROHIBITING SLAVERY FOREVER."

Price \$25.00 ✓

* * * * *

An Ohio Ballot 8½ x 5 3/8 inches

"FOR PRESIDENT
ABRAHAM LINCOLN OF ILLINOIS

FOR VICE PRESIDENT
ANDREW JOHNSON OF TENNESSEE "

With the names of two Electors at Large, and nineteen other Electors.

At the upper left hand corner is a picture of a cannon in colors,
with the United States flag above it.
Beneath the cannon -

"No Compromise with Traitors,
and no Argument but the Cannon's mouth."

Price \$25.00

* * * * *

An Abraham Lincoln stamp of 90¢ denomination of 1869.
Head of Lincoln in dark coloring, with ~~dark~~ red background.

Price \$35.00

* * * * *

The above articles submitted to the
Lincoln National Life Foundation for consideration,
by the owner -

*Miss Louise Wheeler,
1416 1/2 Wadeau Drive,
Los Angeles, Calif.*

Mich. 17-1938

**THE LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE
INSURANCE COMPANY**

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

LOS ANGELES OFFICE

TO

Dr. Louis A. Warren, Director
Lincoln National Life Foundation

DATE March 21, 1938

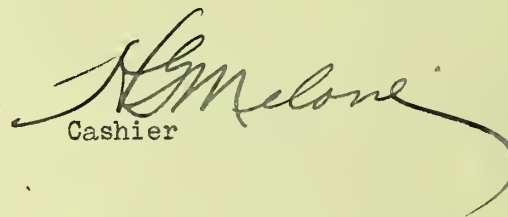
SUBJECT

Dear Dr. Warren:

Possibly you will recall my discussion with you regarding the woman who had several articles pertaining to Lincoln's life, which she desires to offer for sale to the Foundation.

We are attaching her signed statement, describing the articles of which she desires to dispose, and the value she has placed on each article.

HGMelone/jc


Cashier

90 d stamp.

March 29, 1938

Miss Louise Wheeler
1416 1/2 Nadeau Drive
Los Angeles, California

My dear Miss Wheeler:

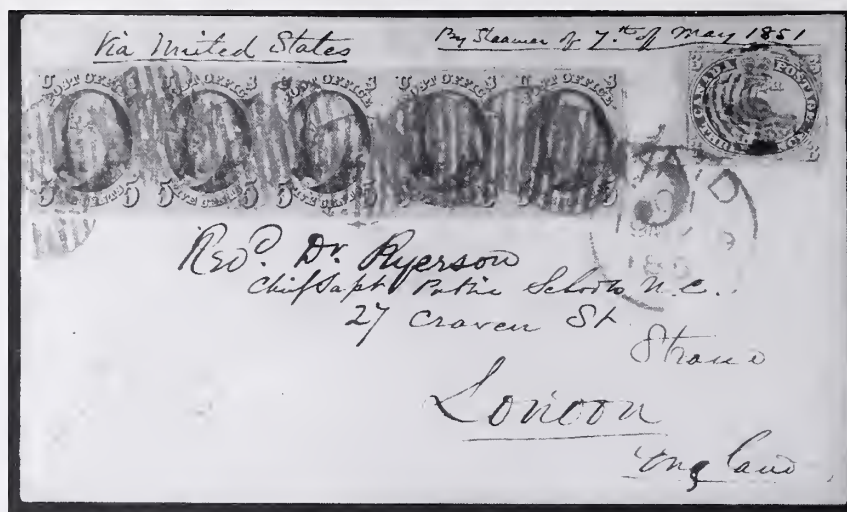
Thank you very much for sending to our Los Angeles Agency the statement about the Lincoln items in your collection.

I regret exceedingly we will not be able to acquire them, although they seem very desirable.

Yours very truly,

LAW:MB

Director



STAMPED IN HISTORY

Robert Obojski explains the hoopla about Christie's New York auction of Ryohei Ishikawa's stamp and cover collection

When Christie's New York announced its September 28 and 29, 1993, auction of Ryohei Ishikawa's collection of United States stamps and covers, dating from 1847 to 1869, collectors and dealers from around the world blocked out those dates for a trip to New York City. And those



A mint block of nine of the Franklin 1 cent blue, 1851, shown above, sold for \$55,200 against a \$40,000/60,000 estimate. The cover, shown at top, sent from Canada to London via New York, sold for \$717,500 (including buyer's premium) at Christie's September 1993 auction of the Ishikawa Collection. This was the highest single realization at the sale. The cover is franked with a horizontal strip of five of the U.S. 5 cents, 1847, and the Canadian 3 pence "Beaver," 1851, and is dated May 7, 1851. (All photos: Courtesy Christie's New York)

participating in the event made news; through their fiercely competitive bidding for Ishikawa's philatelic gems, they spent \$9,540,359—a world record auction realization for a single United States stamp collection. A sampling of what the excitement was all about is shown in the accompanying illustrations.

The highest winning bid at the sale was for a cover sent from Canada to London, England, via New York City, dated May 7, 1851, and franked with a strip of five of the 1847 U.S. Franklin portrait 5-cent stamps and one 1851 Canadian 3-pence "Beaver" stamp. It was hammered down for \$650,000. With the buyer's premium, the total price paid for the cover came to an astounding \$717,500, against a \$500,000/600,000 estimate. (Christie's buyer's surcharge is 15 percent of the final bid price up to and including \$50,000, then 10 percent of the final bid price above \$50,000.)

This cover has enormous historical importance because it bears the first official adhesive postage stamp issues of both the United States and Canada. Both stamps carry the number 1 in the *Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue*. The head of Christie's Philatelic Department,



Another rarity in the Ishikawa collection, this is the largest known unused block of America's first official adhesive postage stamp, issued on July 1, 1847. The mint block of 16 of the Franklin 1847 5 cents red brown drew a winning bid of \$250,000, right on the \$200,000/250,000 estimate.

Colin G. Fraser, who cataloged the sale, says, "This specimen is regarded as the greatest Franklin 5-cent 1847 in existence, together with being the most important mixed franking cover bearing the first issues of two different countries." The successful bidder for the cover was identified only as a "European private," indicating that the bidder

continued

See p. 32 "4 Lincoln Stamps"
30 JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1994

Collectors Editions Magazine

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is a collector rather than a dealer.

Ishikawa's collection was sold as 746 lots and had a pre-sale estimate of \$9 to \$12 million. Of the lots offered, 97 percent sold. "Naturally, we were pleased with the results of the sale," Fraser tells us. "Here we have clear evidence indicating the strength of the philatelic market, which had declined markedly throughout much of the decade of the 1980s. Mr. Ishikawa chose his materials very carefully, and there's no doubt that top-caliber items bring strong realizations."

Fraser's post-sale remarks echoed what others were saying during the auction. As one veteran New York collector, who's attended many top philatelic auctions, told us, "I don't



This mint block of the Jefferson 1856 5 cents red brown (Scott number 12) was knocked down for \$101,200, a bit below the \$120,000/150,000 estimate.

care if we're having a depression or recession, when the truly rare stamps and covers are offered, the money almost literally comes out of the woodwork."

Ryohei Ishikawa, a highly successful Japanese businessman, has long been prominent in philatelic circles. Over the years, he has formed a number of award-winning collections. In recent years, however, he has devoted much of his attention to forming his U.S. Classic collection of the 1847-69 period. In this area, his interests literally "covered the waterfront" as he took particular interest in the U.S. Scott numbers 1 and 2 (the Franklin 5 cents and Washington 10 cents of 1847), and the Pictorial Series of 1869, consisting of eleven values (from the 1 cent to the 90 cents).

He collected his stamps in both mint and used, in multiples and on



Selling for \$96,000, against an estimate of \$80,000/100,000, this mint block of 15 "Shield, Eagle and Flags," complete with imprint plate, is the largest known unused block of the 30 cents from the 1869 Pictorial Series.

covers. In respect to the latter, Ishikawa says: "Covers are especially important because they stand as graphic examples of postal history. When we study the postmarks and other postal marks on an envelope, we can trace the route that a letter followed."

Many of the stamps in the Ishikawa Collection are "pedigreed," since they came from renowned assemblages formed over the decades by such philatelists as Colonel E.H.R. Green, Alfred H. Caspary, Josiah K. Lilly and George Worthington.

Other top items sold at Christie's September auction are listed below. All price quotations include the



This mint block of four of the Lincoln 90 cents carmine and black from the 1869 Pictorial Series realized \$90,500. Its pre-sale estimate was \$70,000/90,000.

buyer's premium; pre-sale estimates are in parentheses.

- Franklin 5 cents red brown, 1847, mint horizontal strip of eight, large margins: \$65,750 (\$60,000/80,000).

- Franklin 5 cents red brown, 1847, block of four on domestic cover, sent from Fredonia to Albany, New York: \$112,500 (\$60,000/80,000).

continued



821 **90c Carmine & Black (122).** Gorgeous colors, light cancel, minute thin
 & tiny perf tear, Fine appearance **(Photo)** 140.00

no date



820 90c Carmine & Black (122). Very Fine, well centered (Photo) 140.00

No sale



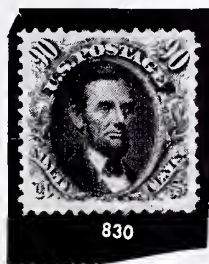
819 90c Carmine & Black (122). 2 short perfs, otherwise Very Fine (Photo) 140.00

No date



818 90c Carmine & Black (122). Brilliant Colors, Extremely Fine (Photo) 140.00

no hole



830 ★ 90c Carmine & Black Reissue (132). Well centered, one short perf, other-
wise, Very Fine (Photo) 300.00

no date



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